

or wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. I hope that Speaker PELOSI will agree with many of us in Congress and people across this Nation that these memorials should remain on display.

And before closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to show a picture of a child whose father died in Iraq for this country. This is a picture of Tyler Jordan whose father, Phillip Jordan, was a gunnery sergeant with the United States Marine Corps. And this young man is receiving the flag on his father's grave on his coffin. Four years ago, I had this picture sent to me so I could blow it up. And I want to say this to Tyler Jordan: Your daddy, Phillip Jordan, is on this poster. He was killed along with others in the year 2003.

A name means a lot to those who are not here any longer. But nothing means more than for a child to come to Washington and to see his father's face outside a congressional office.

So again I have great respect for Speaker PELOSI. And I hope she will agree with us that these posters should remain outside the Members of Congress' office.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform and to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. And I ask God to please bless America and help us to see the way to always remember those who died for this country and not forget them.

God bless America.

[From the Jacksonville Daily News, July 13, 2008]

JONES STANDS GROUND ON LEJEUNE
MEMORIAL IN HALL OUTSIDE OFFICE
(By Molly Dewitt)

A memorial honoring Camp Lejeune's fallen service members may have to come down.

A "Hallway Policy" approved by Nancy Pelosi, house speaker and chair of the House Office Building Commission, limits the display and placement of items in hallways of the House of Representatives office buildings. That includes a display erected by Representative Walter B. Jones (R-NC) outside his office.

Jones's Faces of the Fallen memorial consists of several easels displaying 3-by-1 posters bearing the names and faces of Marines from Camp Lejeune who died while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The policy specifically prohibits easels from being placed in a hallway.

"We're not talking about posters. We're not talking about things in the hall," Jones said. "We're talking about men and women that died for this country."

The hallway policy, instituted on April 17, was "developed to improve House compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Occupational Safety and Health Act as applied to Congress by the Congressional Accountability Act, and the Life Safety Code," according to the policy.

"This is just typical bureaucratic malarkey," Jones said.

No one has ever complained about loss of hallway accessibility due to the memorial, Jones said.

"I've never had anybody come in and tell me that they had trouble getting through the hall," he said.

"I've seen people with wheelchairs, I've seen a large number of people walk by and

it's never impeded anyone from getting through the hall."

Deborah May, whose husband Staff Sgt. Donald C. May Jr. was killed March 25, 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom, said she's walked the hallways in the House of Representatives office buildings.

"You could have a wheelchair race down those halls, because they're very wide," she said.

She wants the memorial display to remain. "When I go, I take my small children with me. The very least they could do is put a picture there to show my children that my husband is remembered and that this is what our government is about and our country and the freedoms we have," May said, tearing up.

The memorial has been displayed outside of Jones' various office locations for the past five years and several years ago an initial attempt to remove them was made, he said.

"Those that write the rules just don't have the respect for those who have given their life for their country," Jones said.

"As far as I'm concerned this is disrespectful to those who have given their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq."

Jones believes Pelosi will make an exception for the memorial.

"When we're having men and women dying every day and every week in Afghanistan and in Iraq—my God, the least that we can do is have people walk by and see the face of one that never came back home," Jones said. "I think Ms. Pelosi will understand."

Jones sent a letter to Pelosi on Wednesday regarding the matter.

It has been suggested to Jones that a listing of the names of the fallen be placed in an entrance foyer, but he believes that to be insufficient, he said in the letter to Pelosi.

Jones said, regardless of her decision, he plans to stand his ground in the situation.

"We're not going to let this be an issue, were going to do what's right," Jones said. "I told them they'll have to remove me with the posters."

Vivianne Wersel, the president of the Surviving Spouses Support Group at Camp Lejeune, said the memorial is as much an icon as the American flag.

"These service members have given their lives for a conflict and something that they believe in," she said. "I think that it is a reminder for those that are visiting Congress and that is what America is all about. Whether my husband's picture is in it or not, it plays a role to remind those that walk the hall of Congress. They can walk the halls of Congress because of these young men that have given them the freedom to speak and the freedom to live."

□ 1930

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
WARREN G. DAVIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this occasion to first of all say how much I appreciate this opportunity to address my colleagues and the Nation and to talk for just a few moments on a good and decent person, a great American. His name is Warren G. Davis.

Warren G. Davis passed away a few days ago. He was more than just an ordinary person. God blesses us with many blessings. But there is no greater

blessing that he blesses you with than that to have a friend, a friend for life. And that is what Warren G. Davis meant to me and our friendship.

Warren G. Davis comes out of Texas. He was born out of Refugio, Texas, near Victoria and near Corpus Christi, a man of God from the very beginning. Warren Davis was a loving husband to his wife of over 38 years, Linda. He was a loving father to his two sons, Brad and Warren Junior. He was a loving brother to Fred Davis and his cousin Harold Martin. And of course his mother, his father and his entire beloved family mourns this hour.

But let me just say, Mr. Speaker, that not only his family mourns, his immediate family, for this young man touched many lives. In his community of South Lake, Texas, he played such an important role as a community leader, for Warren not only gave to his family, but he gave to his extended family and his entire community. He served on the school board of South Lake from 1993 to 1996. He was a member of the Red Creek Community Association. As a matter of fact, he served as its president. He was also a member of the very elite community group called the Dragons Council. It was no ordinary group, for this is an elite fan-based booster group for the young people in that community and supported the South Lake teams.

To show you a measure of his commitment, over the many years Warren G. Davis never missed a single game. He gave so much of his life to this community.

Warren Davis and I go back from the very beginning of our college careers. He has been a friend for over 45 years to me, Mr. Speaker, for in 1963 we both went to Florida A&M University where this young man was also my college roommate for 4 years. We pledged fraternity together, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; oh, did he love Alpha Phi Alpha, and we pledged the Beta Nu Chapter. We affectionately referred to ourselves as the 12 disciples. But Warren Davis was the enforcer of our group. He was the glue that kept us together. He learned very early to work with different people. He not only was there as a fraternity person, but also worked early in the student movement when we had the task of integrating many of the public facilities in Tallahassee, Florida, as we matriculated through Florida A&M University.

When he left Florida A&M, he started a very distinguished career in the computer field as one of the foremost African-American executives with the IBM corporation, working as an executive in the management and the market and the accounting areas, and paving the way for other African Americans to be able to follow in his footsteps.

Mr. Speaker, this is a great American and one who was humble and humbled himself before God and understood not only who he was but whose he was.

And so I just want to rise this afternoon to say these few words about my

great friend, my good friend, Warren Davis. Let me just say in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, that Warren Davis fought the good fight. Warren Davis finished his course, and Warren Davis kept the faith. And henceforth there is put up for him a crown of righteousness which the Lord, that righteous judge, has made available to Warren G. Davis, and so many people both near and far all across the breadth and the scope of America collectively say we thank God for sending Warren G. Davis our way.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL DEBAKEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to honor Dr. Michael DeBakey, the father of modern cardiovascular surgery, and for me a personal hero. Dr. DeBakey passed away Friday night in Houston at the age of 99. Michael DeBakey, a giant among men and a giant in medicine. His death is a tremendous loss to the fields of medicine, science, and technology. It is a great loss for humanity at-large.

Mr. Speaker, there are certain privileges that come with being a servant here in the people's House. For me, one of those privileges was meeting Dr. DeBakey. After working months to secure the Congressional Gold Medal for the great doctor, I had the chance to sit down with him here in Washington in April right after it was awarded to him. For 30 minutes, we were able to discuss his personal and professional experiences over his 60 years in medicine. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for which I am eternally grateful.

He talked about how Congress had been responsible for the advancement of medical science in this country, how Congress had led the way with funding for the National Institutes of Health. He talked about his experiences going over and treating Boris Yeltsin in the Soviet Union when he was suffering from heart disease, and Dr. DeBakey found just on the basis purely on physical examine that the individual was quite anemic as well, which rendered his outlook for cardiovascular surgery much worse. They treated the anemia, and the rest, as they say, is history.

As a fellow physician, Dr. DeBakey's work on medical advancements is legendary. His dedication to healing those around him came not only from his talents as a physician, but his ongoing commitment to the larger medical community.

His motto, as we heard others mention today, was always "strive for nothing less than excellence."

I would be remiss if I did not mention the education and the entrepreneurial spirit that made him worthy of one of the Nation's highest honors, the Congressional Gold Medal. Let me share some of his accomplishments.

While in medical school, Dr. DeBakey developed the roller pump

which later became the major component in the heart-lung machine that is used in open heart surgery routinely today. It was truly a visionary change.

His service and subsequent work in the Surgeon General's office during World War II led to the development of the Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, the so-called MASH unit. Without Dr. DeBakey, we wouldn't have those forward surgical teams that go into combat areas and provide vital care to our soldiers in that golden hour after injury.

This medical trailblazer also helped establish the specialized medical and surgical center system for treating military personnel returning home from war which we know as the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

But it was at the Methodist Hospital in Houston where Dr. DeBakey performed many of his groundbreaking surgeries, including the first removal of a carotid artery blockage. He also performed the first coronary artery bypass graft, and some of the first heart transplants in this country as well.

He served as adviser to every President of the United States for the last 50 years. Think of that, every President for the last 50 years depended on Dr. Michael DeBakey for medical advice. Additionally, he has given advice to heads of state throughout the world.

During his professional surgical career, he performed more than 60,000 cardiovascular procedures, and trained thousands of surgeons who practice around the world today. Today, his name is affixed to any number of organizations, centers of learning, and projects devoted to medical education and health education for the general public. This includes the National Library of Medicine, which is now the world's largest and most prestigious repository of medical archives. The collections there house resources that actually I look at several times a week as I prepare for committee hearings.

Dr. DeBakey's contributions to medicine, his breakthrough surgeries, and his innovative devices have completely transformed our view of the human body and our view of longevity on this planet. The United States, and indeed the world, were fortunate to have this medical pioneer for as long as we did.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I come to the floor tonight, but it is also with great honor that I once again share Dr. DeBakey with this august body. Time Magazine honored him as the Man of the Year several years ago. Indeed he was, a man for the ages and the Man of the Year.

U.S. TROOP DEPLOYMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, just 10 days ago we celebrated the 4th of July because on that day in 1776, we first declared our Nation's independence and sovereignty.

The American people have cherished and fought for that sovereignty for 232 years, so it is only right that we respect the sovereignty of other nations.

Last week, Iraq's Prime Minister al-Maliki said that the withdrawal of American troops out of Iraq or a timetable for withdrawal should be part of the current status-of-forces negotiations between his government and the United States. He insisted that the basis for any agreement will be respect for the full sovereignty of Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, this House should affirm Iraq's right to full sovereignty. In fact, my colleague, Representative LEE of California, and I have sent a letter to every Member of the House inviting all Members to cosign a letter to Prime Minister al-Maliki supporting his government's sovereign rights. The letter reads in part as follows: "We, the undersigned, Members of the United States House of Representatives, write to acknowledge and support the sovereign right of the government of Iraq to insist that any security agreement between the United States and Iraq include a timetable for the complete redeployment of U.S. Armed Forces and military contractors out of Iraq."

The letter goes on to say, Mr. Speaker, "As elected members of the legislative branch of the world's longest continuing democracy, we recognize that it is the national legislature that is responsible for expressing and exercising the sovereign rights and powers that the people have entrusted in their government."

"It is for the free people of Iraq, acting through their elected representatives in the Iraq parliament, to decide for themselves the terms and conditions under which they will agree to the continuing presence of the U.S. Armed Forces and military contractors in their country. And it is for the Congress of the United States to approve the terms and conditions of any security agreement that commits the United States to the defense of Iraq."

Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister al-Maliki's statement for support for withdrawal timetable could very well be the light at the end of the tunnel that the American people have long been waiting for. Ending the occupation of Iraq, which was never an imminent security threat to the United States in the first place, would allow us to refocus on Afghanistan where the real threat lies. It would end the U.S. military occupation in the Middle East that has done so much to strengthen Iran's hand in the region. And it would allow us to redirect tens of billions of dollars back home for desperately needed investments in our economy, our health care, energy independence, education, child care and so much more.

The President has often said that as Iraqis stand up, we will stand down. Prime Minister al-Maliki's statement shows that the Iraqis believe they are ready to stand up. Now the ball is in our court. It is time for the President